Pakistan has not responded positively to this request. The President of Pakistan, in his January 12 address to the Nation stated that there was no question of the Pakistani authorities handing over any Pakistan national to India. As regards the presence of non-Pakistan nationals, the President stated that Pakistan had not given any asylum to any such person.

The Government has consistently conveyed to the international community that action by Pakistan on the list of 20 will demonstrate its sincerity to permanently stop cross border terrorism against India. There is support and understanding for India's position.

High Level Talks with Chinese Government

198. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been any high level talks with the Chinese Government in light of the military build-up between India and Pakistan;

(b) if so, the role China is willing to play in case of the worst;

(c) what is Chinese stand now post Kaluchak massacre; and

(d) what was the motive behind a high level Chinese delegation visiting Islamabad during the military build-up with Pakistan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (d) Government of India is committed to the development of friendly and good neighbourly relations with China on the basis of the principles of Panchsheel, mutual sensitivity to each other's concerns and equality. This has been underscored during recent high level political exchange between India and China, including during the visit of Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji to India in January 2002, the visit of External Affairs Minister to China in March-April 2002 and during the meeting of Prime Minister and Chinese President Jiang Zemin in Almaty in June 2002. Both sides are taking steps to further promote the development of bilateral relations.

After the Kaluchak massacre, Chinese Foreign Office Spokesman stated that "the position of the Chinese Government is very clear. We wish to express our strong condemnation and our sympathies to the families of the injured people".

Inhuman treatment to Indian High Commission's employees in Pakistan

†199. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of incidents relating to inhuman treatment meted out to the employees of the Indian High Commission in Pakistan by the ISI of Pakistan is continuously increasing;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents during the year 2002 which have come to Government's notice;

(c) whether Government have taken these incidents seriously; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) The incidents of harassment/ intimidation of the employees of Indian High Commission in Pakistan at the hands of various agencies of Pakistan continue. In the year 2002, 13 cases of harassment/intimidation including of physical & mental torture have been reported.

(c) and (d) The Government views all such incidents seriously and condemns them. It also protests to the Government of Pakistan reminding latter of its obligations towards the safety and security of the employees of the Indian High Commission under the Vienna Convention and bilateral Code of Conduct. Government is committed to safety & security of its personnel in all the Missions abroad.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.